



State of West Virginia

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

July 16, 2019

Mr. Ken Ward
Staff Writer
The Charleston Gazette-Mail
1001 Virginia Street, E.
Charleston, West Virginia 25301

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request email dated June 28, 2019

Dear Mr. Ward:

This letter will provide the response of the West Virginia Department of Commerce ("Commerce") to your above-referenced request for information pursuant to the West Virginia Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), W.Va. Code § 29B-1-1, *et seq.*

You specifically requested the following:

- Please provide us with copies of all records in the custody of the Commerce Department or its Development Office concerning the recommendations and designations of the City of Ronceverte and the City of White Sulphur Springs (Census tracts 54025950700 and 54025950100) as "Opportunity Zones" under the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.
- Please also provide us with copies of any and all records concerning consideration for recommendation or designating other parts of Greenbrier County as Opportunity Zones. Also provide any and all records concerning House Bill 2828 and House Bill 113 concerning Opportunity Zones.
- Any communications, date Jan. 1, 2018, through today between any officials in those agencies and any other individuals that contained any of the following terms (regardless of capitalization):
 - "opportunity zone"
 - "OZ"
 - "54025950700"
 - "54025950100"
 - "Ronceverte"
 - "White Sulphur Springs"
- For any emails that contain those terms, please provide any attachments that were included.

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Commerce is the custodian of the documents that are relevant to your request. We have enclosed the documents that are the applicable records responsive to this request. Please contact me if you have any questions via email at Jack.M.Rife@wv.gov or by telephone at (304) 558.2234.

Sincerely,



Jack M. Rife
General Counsel